

## CCRB INVESTIGATIVE RECOMMENDATION

Investigator: Maura Roche	Team: Squad #10	CCRB Case #: 202102973	<input type="checkbox"/> Force	<input type="checkbox"/> Discourt.	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S.
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Abuse	<input type="checkbox"/> O.L.	<input type="checkbox"/> Injury
Incident Date(s) Saturday, 05/15/2021 4:00 PM	Location of Incident: Fifth Avenue and Bay Ridge Avenue in Brooklyn	Precinct: 68	18 Mo. SOL 11/15/2022	EO SOL 11/15/2022	
Date/Time CV Reported Mon, 05/17/2021 1:08 PM	CV Reported At: CCRB	How CV Reported: On-line website	Date/Time Received at CCRB Mon, 05/17/2021 1:08 PM		

Complainant/Victim	Type	Home Address

Subject Officer(s)	Shield	TaxID	Command
1. POF Quratulain Chughtai	26706	964985	068 PCT

Witness Officer(s)	Shield No	Tax No	Cmd Name
1. POM Patrick Memi	05078	958923	068 PCT

Officer(s)	Allegation	Investigator Recommendation
A.POF Quratulain Chughtai	Abuse: Police Officer Quratulain Chughtai obstructed her shield number.	
B.POF Quratulain Chughtai	Abuse: Police Officer Quratulain Chughtai refused to provide her name to § 87(2)(b)	
C.POF Quratulain Chughtai	Abuse: Police Officer Quratulain Chughtai refused to provide her shield number to § 87(2)(b)	

### Case Summary

On May 17, 2021, § 87(2)(b) filed this complaint with the CCRB online.

On May 15, 2021, at approximately 4 p.m., at the intersection of Fifth Avenue and Bay Ridge Avenue in Brooklyn, § 87(2)(b) was attending a pro-Palestine rally. § 87(2)(b) approached four officers, including PO Quratulain Chughtai and PO Patrick Memi, both of the 68<sup>th</sup> Precinct, and asked them for their name and shield numbers. PO Memi and the other two officers provided their names and shield number, but PO Chughtai, whose shield number was obstructed by a mourning band (**Allegation A: Abuse of Authority – Obstructed Shield Number**, § 87(2)(g)), refused to provide her name and shield number, instead pointing to her shield on her uniform. When § 87(2)(b) asked PO Chughtai to verbally state her name and shield number, PO Chughtai refused and told § 87(2)(b) that she did not have to (**Allegation B: Refusal to Provide Name**, § 87(2)(g)). **Allegation C: Refusal to Provide Shield Number**, § 87(2)(g)). PO Chughtai then briefly pulled down her mourning band so that the shield number was visible. § 87(2)(b) wrote down PO Chughtai's shield number and then left the location.

§ 87(2)(b) provided cell phone footage of the incident (**BR 01** and **BR 02**). There was no additional video footage. No OMNs were recommended as BWC activation was not mandated or permitted during this incident. This incident resulted in no arrests or summonses.

### Findings and Recommendations

**Allegation (A) Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Quratulain Chughtai obstructed her shield number.**

**Allegation (B) Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Quratulain Chughtai refused to provide her name to § 87(2)(b)**

**Allegation (C) Abuse of Authority: Police Officer Quratulain Chughtai refused to provide her shield number to § 87(2)(b)**

It was undisputed that on May 15, 2021, at approximately 4 p.m., at the intersection of Fifth Avenue and Bay Ridge Avenue in Brooklyn, PO Chughtai's mourning band was obstructing her shield number and that when asked to verbally provide her name and shield number to § 87(2)(b) PO Chughtai refused.

§ 87(2)(b) consistently stated (**BR 03** and **BR 04**) that on May 15, 2021, at approximately 4 p.m., she was attending a pro-Palestine rally when she saw PO Chughtai, PO Memi, and two other officers standing in a line in front of their marked SUV. § 87(2)(b) and an unidentified friend approached the officers and asked for their name and shield numbers starting with the officers to PO Chughtai's left, and each officer verbally provided their information. When § 87(2)(b) got to PO Chughtai, she saw that PO Chughtai's mourning band was covering her shield number. § 87(2)(b) asked PO Chughtai for her name, rank, and shield number, and, instead of verbally replying, PO Chughtai pointed to her shield and said, "It's right here." When § 87(2)(b) told her that she was required to provide her information verbally, PO Chughtai said, "If you can't see my badge, it's not my problem." As they were going back and forth, PO Chughtai very quickly lifted the mourning band, and § 87(2)(b) was able to note down the shield number, but not PO Chughtai's name. § 87(2)(b) then left the area.

§ 87(2)(b) provided cell phone footage of the incident (**BR 01** and **BR 02**), which is consistent with her statements. At 00:04 seconds, PO Chughtai points to her shield, the number of which is obstructed with a mourning band, and says, "It's right there." § 87(2)(b) asks PO Chughtai to say her name, and PO Chughtai points to her shield again and repeats, "It's right here." § 87(2)(b) asks for PO Chughtai's shield number, and, at 00:14 seconds, PO Chughtai walks forward toward § 87(2)(b) while pointing at her shield and says, "If you can't see it, that's not my problem. It's right here." PO Chughtai's shield number is covered by a mourning band. § 87(2)(b) tells PO Chughtai that she needs to say her name and shield number, and PO Chughtai says, "I don't have to say it." At 00:22 seconds, PO Chughtai pulls down the mourning band so that the

shield number is visible and says, “My badge is visible. You can see it.” By 00:25 seconds, the mourning band has started to ride back up to partially obscure the numbers.

PO Chughtai’s statement (**BR 05**) was generally consistent with § 87(2)(b) s and the cell phone footage of the incident. PO Chughtai was wearing her mourning band to honor the passing of PO Anastasios Tsakos, who had been killed in the line of duty. Prior to the incident captured on the cell phone, § 87(2)(b) and a few other people with her, who were brandishing squeaking pig toys at officers, had approached PO Chughtai approximately two times and asked her for her name and shield number. Each time, PO Chughtai verbally provided her name and shield number. § 87(2)(b) was not writing down or otherwise noting down the information on either of these occasions.

When § 87(2)(b) approached for the final time, she asked all of the officers to PO Chughtai’s left for their names and shield numbers and was noting the information down in her phone. § 87(2)(b) asked PO Chughtai again for her name and shield number, and PO Chughtai pointed to her shield instead of verbally providing the information and told § 87(2)(b) that she did not need to tell it to her. PO Chughtai explained that she did this because she felt that she had done so sufficiently when § 87(2)(b) had previously requested the information. PO Chughtai added that when she told § 87(2)(b) that she did not have to verbally provide her name and shield number, she had “reached that limit for the day,” noting that she felt like § 87(2)(b) was “attacking” her multiple times and that by previously providing the information, she did not have to do it again.

When PO Chughtai realized that her mourning band was covering her shield number, she lifted it up so that the number was visible. PO Chughtai thought that § 87(2)(b) was able to obtain her information because § 87(2)(b) appeared to enter her info into her phone and retrieve prior allegations made against PO Chughtai, which she read aloud. § 87(2)(b) then left the location, and PO Chughtai realized that her mourning band was loose, so she removed it from her shield.

Patrol Guide procedure 204-17 (**BR 06**) states that officers may wear black elastic mourning bands on the shield covering the seal of the city, but leaving the shield number or rank designation visible, upon the death of a member, and on National Peace Officer’s Memorial Day, which is May 15<sup>th</sup> annually.

According to Patrol Guide procedure 203-09 (**BR 07**), officers must courteously and clearly state your rank, name, shield number, and command, or otherwise provide then, to anyone who requests you to do so. Officers must allow members of the public ample time to write down identification information.

While it was permissible for PO Chughtai to wear a mourning band because it was National Peace Officer’s Memorial Day, it was undisputed that the mourning band was obscuring the shield number. § 87(2)(g)

Although PO Chughtai stated that she had previously provided her name and shield number to § 87(2)(b) on those occasions, § 87(2)(b) was not documenting the information. It was undisputed that on the final time § 87(2)(b) approached, when she was documenting the information in her phone, PO Chughtai refused to courteously state her name to § 87(2)(b) and denied her ample time to write it down. § 87(2)(g)

While § 87(2)(b) was able to obtain PO Chughtai’s shield number in the brief moment that PO Chughtai lowered her mourning band, the shield number was only visible for a few seconds and PO Chughtai told § 87(2)(b) that she was not required to verbally provide it to her and refused to do so. Given that § 87(2)(b) was ultimately able to note the shield number despite PO Chughtai’s refusal to verbally provide it to her as required by the Patrol Guide, § 87(2)(g)

### Civilian and Officer CCRB Histories

- § 87(2)(b) has been party to one CCRB complaints and has been named as a victim in six allegations (**BR 08**).
  - § 87(2)(g)
- PO Chughtai has been a member of service for three and has been a subject in two CCRB complaints and four allegations, none of which were substantiated. § 87(2)(g)

### Mediation, Civil, and Criminal Histories

- This complaint was not suitable for mediation.
- On June 26, 2021, a Notice of Claim was submitted to the Comptroller's office, the results of which will be added to the case file upon receipt (**BR 09**).
- According to the Office of Court Administration (OCA), § 87(2)(b) has no history of convictions in New York City (**BR 10**).

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Squad: 10

Investigator: Maura R. Roche SI Maura R. Roche 07/28/2021  
Signature Print Title & Name Date

Squad Leader: Eric Rigie IM Eric Rigie 7/28/2021  
Signature Print Title & Name Date

Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Print Title & Name Date